

THE CRITIC

JOURNAL OF BRITISH AND FOREIGN LITERATURE AND THE ARTS:

A Guide for the Library and Book-Club, and Booksellers' Circular.

(PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY.)

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Richardson's Arabic Dictionary, last edition.

GLEANINGS,
ORIGINAL AND SELECT.

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A WORD FOR GOVERNESSES.—Governesses are frequently handsome, they must be clever and accomplished. If I had the choice of a wife, I would marry a governess; but I recommend all bachelors called upon to marry, to look for partners in the ranks of pretty governesses. They will there find beautiful girls, a little chastened by adversity, perhaps, free from all those foolish fantasies which modern mothers and modern fashions so generally instil into the minds of young ladies.—*Frazer*.

GLASS ROOFING.—We learn from the newspapers that within the last few days a rather novel importation has been made in the port of London. This is a small quantity of glass tiles, similar in point of form to the common clay tile for roofing buildings, the advantage held out being their lightness, and being pervious to the rays of the sun. The latter quality is presumed to render them suitable for the roofs of greenhouses, as they will not interrupt the heat and light, whilst they are sufficiently strong to resist the effects of hail-storms, which will much reduce the cost of insurance on greenhouses, &c. The importation is made from Antwerp, and they are chargeable with a duty of 14s. per cwt. under the present tariff. They have the appearance of the common green glass, and if the experiment is found to succeed, it demands the immediate attention of our home manufacturers. We shall be glad to learn where these glass tiles can be obtained.—*The Builder*.

BUT I.—Sir Walter Scott says—I hate But; I know no form of expression in which he can appear that is amiable, excepting as a butt of sack. But is to me a more detestable combination of letters than No itself. No is a surly, honest fellow, speaks his mind rough and round at once; But is a sneaking, evasive, half-bred, exception sort of conjunction, which comes to pull away the cup just when it is at your lips, as Shakspeare says—

"It does ally
The good precedent; fie upon 'but yet!'
But yet is as a jailer, to bring forth
Some monstrous malefactor!"

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LOVE'S TELEGRAPH.—If a gentleman wants a wife, he wears a ring on the first finger of the left hand; if he be engaged, he wears it on the second finger; if married, on the third; and on the fourth, if he never intends to get married. When a lady is not engaged, she wears a hoop or diamond on her first finger; if engaged, on the second; if married, on the third; and on the fourth if she intends to be a maid. When a gentleman presents a fan, a flower, or trinkets, to a lady with the left hand, this, on his part, is an overture of regard; should she receive it with the left hand, it is considered as an acceptance of his esteem; but if the right hand, it is a refusal of the offer. Thus, by a few simple tokens, explained by rule, the passion of love is expressed.

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